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REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 10-21 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3 and 10-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Tshushina in view of Seto and further in view of Fukashiro and further in view of Casper. Claims 1 and 13 are currently amended. Claims 20 and 21 are new. Reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended in a manner which renders the previous rejections inapplicable. In particular claims 1 and 13 now recite that both the bulk compensation and the individual channel compensation are dynamically adjustable, and further that the individual channel compensation is dynamically adjustable based at least in-part on output carrier power. Support for the amendments to the claims is in the specification as originally filed at page 11, lines 7-16, and page 7, line 35 – page 8, line 2. None of the cited references teach or suggest dynamic adjustment of individual channels, particularly based in-part on output carrier power. Withdrawal of the rejections of claim 1 and 13 is therefore requested. Claims 2-12 and 14-19 are dependent claims which further distinguish the invention and are allowable for the same reasons described above. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2-12 and 14-19 is therefore also requested.

Claims 20 and 21 have been added. Support for these claims is in the specification at page 11, lines 7-16, and page 7, line 35 – page 8, line 2. As stated above, none of the cited references teach or suggest dynamic adjustment of individual channels, particularly based in-part on output carrier amplitude. As discussed in the specification as originally filed at page 1, line 23-page 2, line 6, it would be desirable to have a photonic node that functions as a gateway for interfacing different vendor networks. However, a problem with interfacing different vendor

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networks is that wavelength amplitude requirements may differ. The presently claimed invention helps provide a gateway photonic node by providing the capability to dynamically adjust individual wavelengths without translating to the electrical domain. Consequently, claims 20 and 21 are allowable over the cited references.

The Office objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for failing to show certain elements described in the specification. Applicant requests that the objection be withdrawn because those elements are not essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention. The elements are not presently recited in the claims, nor are they directly related to providing the capability to dynamically adjust individual wavelengths without translating to the electrical domain as discussed above.

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Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance.

However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' Attorney at 978-264-4001 (X305) so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date

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